

Appl. No. 10/828,533
Amdt. dated: August 07, 2008
Reply to Office action of June 26, 2007

Amendments to the Claims:

This listings of claims 1-31 will replace all prior variations and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 Claims 1-10, 12-17 and 19-20, which are pending in the above-
2 identified application, are original claims without amendment.

1 Claim 11 (amended). The port security barrier system of claim 9
2 further comprising:

3 a third angled support brace having one end attached to
4 the top end of said first net support member and the
5 other end attached to a first of said plurality of
6 pontoons;

7 a fourth angled support brace having one end attached to
8 the top end of said second net support member and the
9 other end attached to a second of said plurality of
10 pontoons; and

11 a fifth angled support brace having one end attached to the
12 top end of said third net support member and the other
13 end attached to a third of said plurality of pontoons.

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1 Claim 18 (amended). The port security barrier system of claim 12
2 wherein said net support structure comprises:

3 first, second and third net support members attached
4 to said longitudinal strength member, said first,
5 second and third net support members extending
6 vertically upward from said longitudinal strength
7 member, said first net support member being positioned
8 at one end of said longitudinal strength member, said
9 second net support member being positioned at other end
10 of said longitudinal strength member and said third net
11 support member being positioned at the center of said
12 longitudinal strength member;

13 a first angled support brace, said first angled support
14 brace having one end attached to the bottom end of said
15 first net support member and the other end attached
16 near the top end of said third net support member;

17 a second angled support brace, said second angled
18 support brace having one end attached to the bottom end
19 of said second net support member and the other end
20 attached near the top end of said third net support
21 member;

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22 a third angled support brace having one end attached to
23 the top end of said first net support member and the
24 other end attached to said first pontoon;
25 a fourth angled support brace having one end attached to
26 the top end of said second net support member and the
27 other end attached to said second pontoon; and
28 a fifth angled support brace having one end attached to the
29 top end of said third net support member and the other
30 end attached to said third pontoon.

1 Claim 21. A port security barrier system for protecting a port
2 facility from a waterborne craft laden with explosives, said port
3 security barrier system comprising:

4 (a) a plurality of port security barrier modules connected
5 to one another to form a floating security barrier for said
6 port facility having a length from about two hundred feet to
7 about one mile;

8 (b) a plurality of mooring buoys, each of said plurality of
9 mooring buoys being disposed between an adjacent pair of
10 said port security barrier modules and connected to each of
11 the adjacent pair of said port security barrier modules,
12 said mooring buoys maintaining said port security barrier

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modules in a fixed position relative to said port facility
to insure that said port facility is protected from said
waterborne craft;

(c) each of said port security barrier modules including:

(i) a longitudinal strength member;

(ii) a generally rectangular shaped capture net extending
vertically upward from said longitudinal strength member,
said capture net having a length approximately the same as
the length of said longitudinal strength member, and a
height which is sufficient to prevent said waterborne craft
from penetrating said port facility;

(iii) a net support structure extending vertically upward
from said longitudinal strength member, said net support
structure being attached to said longitudinal strength
member, said net support structure having said capture net
attached thereto; and

(iv) a plurality of pontoons attached to said longitudinal
strength member and orientated perpendicular to said
longitudinal strength member, said pontoons for each of said
port security barrier modules keeping said port security
barrier system afloat in a seawater environment.

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1 Claim 22. The port security barrier system of claim 21 wherein
2 each of said plurality of mooring buoys has one end of a mooring
3 line connected thereto, said mooring line having at least two
4 branches, each of the branches of said mooring line having an
5 anchor connected thereto.

1 Claim 23. The port security barrier system of claim 21 wherein
2 said capture net has a mesh structure, said mesh structure having
3 a one foot square mesh size comprising horizontal boat stopping
4 members consisting of a 1.125 inch diameter 12-Strand Braided
5 nylon rope and vertical boat stopping members consisting of 0.75
6 inch diameter 12-Plait nylon, the horizontal boat stopping
7 members of said capture net being interlaced with the vertical
8 boat stopping members of said capture net to form the mesh
9 structure of said capture net.

1 Claim 24. The port security barrier system of claim 23 wherein
2 said capture net has a height of approximately eight feet and a
3 width of approximately fifty two feet.

1 Claim 25. The port security barrier system of claim 23 wherein

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2 said capture net is fabricated from nylon to absorb energy from a
3 waterborne craft which engages said capture net, said waterborne
4 craft when engaging said capture net traveling at speeds of up to
5 52 knots and having a weight of around 10,000 pounds.

6
7 Claim 26. The port security barrier system of claim 21 wherein
8 said plurality of pontoons comprise three pontoons, a first and a
9 second of said three pontoons being positioned at each end of
10 said longitudinal strength member and a third of said three
11 pontoons being position at the center of said longitudinal
12 strength member, the first and the second of said three pontoons
13 having an equal length, and the third of said three pontoons
14 having a substantially greater length than the first and the
15 second of said three pontoons.

1 Claim 27. The port security barrier system of claim 21 wherein
2 said longitudinal strength member includes connector elements
3 positioned at each end of said longitudinal strength member, said
4 connector elements allowing a user of said port security barrier
5 system to connect each of said port security barrier modules to
6 adjacent port security barrier modules.

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1 Claim 28. The port security barrier system of claim 27 wherein
2 one of said port security barrier modules operates as a gate, the
3 connector elements of the one of said port security barrier
4 modules operating as said gate allowing said user to open and
5 close the one of said port security barrier modules operating as
6 said gate.

7
8 Claim 29. The port security barrier system of claim 21 wherein
9 said net support structure comprises:

10 first, second and third net support members attached
11 to said longitudinal strength member, said first,
12 second and third net support members extending
13 vertically upward from said longitudinal strength
14 member, said first net support member being positioned
15 at one end of said longitudinal strength member, said
16 second net support member being positioned at other end
17 of said longitudinal strength member and said third net
18 support member being positioned at the center of said
19 longitudinal strength member;

20 a first angled support brace, said first angled support
21 brace having one end attached to the bottom end of said
22 first net support member and the other end attached

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23 near the top end of said third net support member; and
24 a second angled support brace, said second angled
25 support brace having one end attached to the bottom end
26 of said second net support member and the other end
27 attached near the top end of said third net support
28 member.

1 Claim 30 (amended). The port security barrier system of claim 29
2 further comprising a warning light located near the top end of
3 said third net support member and a light support bracket
4 attached to said net support member, [said light support bracket
5 being mounted on said light support bracket] said warning light
6 being mounted on said light support bracket.

1 Claim 31 (amended). The port security barrier system of claim 29
2 further comprising:
3 a third angled support brace having one end attached to
4 the top end of said first net support member and the
5 other end attached to a first of said plurality of
6 pontoons;
7 a fourth angled support brace having one end attached to
8 the top end of said second net support member and the

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9 other end attached to a second of said plurality of
10 pontoons; and
11 a fifth angled support brace having one end attached to the
12 top end of said third net support member and the other
13 end attached to a third of said plurality of pontoons.